

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING, AND AIR-CONDITIONING ENGINEERS AND NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Anthracite Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) as it celebrates National Engineers Week. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers was originally formed in 1894 as American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. With its international membership of over 56,000, ASHRAE works to make sustainable advancements in technology for heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration.

Since 1951, National Engineers Week has celebrated the countless contributions engineers have made to our country. National Engineers Week is formally recognized by a coalition of more than 70 engineering, education, and cultural societies, with over fifty corporations and government agencies dedicated to raising public awareness on the effect engineering has on daily life. National Engineers Week honors also the parents, teachers, and mentors who instill the importance of math, science, and technological literacy in students and motivate them to pursue careers in engineering.

Many of the major challenges of our time have been resolved by modern engineering. From designing efficient building systems to rebuilding towns devastated by natural disasters, the efforts of engineers contribute to our nation's well-being and quality of life. It is a great privilege to recognize these honorable men and women, who are committed to using their scientific skills and specialized knowledge to create and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE SAVING AMERICA'S POLLINATORS ACT

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, our nation's food system is in a crisis right now, and it goes beyond the state of the farm economy. Between 2016 and 2017, it's estimated that the United States lost one-third of its honey bee colonies. Over the past decade, documented incidents of honey bee colony collapse disorder and other forms of excess bee mortality have been at a record high. Some beekeepers reported repeatedly losing 100 percent of their operations. While this may not sound like a crisis to some, these insects play a critical role in pollinating a number of our nation's crops.

Honey bees and native bees jointly provide U.S. agriculture an estimated \$18 to \$27 billion in pollination service annually. One of every three bites of food we eat is from a crop pollinated by bees. This dramatic decline

threatens these crops, and thousands of scientific studies have implicated neonicotinoid pesticides, or neonics, as key contributors to this trend.

That's why today I am proud to reintroduce the Saving America's Pollinators Act. This bill would protect the health of honey bees and other critical pollinators and suspend the use of bee-toxic neonics. It also requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to complete a thorough assessment and ensure that any use of these insecticides does not cause unreasonable and adverse effects on pollinators.

The health of our food system depends on the health of our pollinators, and the EPA has a responsibility to get to the bottom of this issue. I urge my colleagues to join me and pass this legislation so that we can save our pollinators. The future of our food depends on it.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACT

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to recognize and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington located in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland. The defenses of Washington, including forts, unarmed batteries and rifle trenches, created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War. This bill would redesignate the 22 Civil War Defenses of Washington currently under National Park Service jurisdiction as a national historical park, and allow other sites associated with the Civil War Defenses of Washington that are owned by the District of Columbia or a unit of state governments to be affiliated with the national historic park through cooperative agreements. This bill would also require the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the storied history of the Civil War for both the North and the South, including the history of the Defenses of Washington and the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, being assembled, arrayed and conveyed for the benefit of the public for the knowledge, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Civil War Defenses of Washington were constructed at the beginning of the war, in 1861, as a ring of protection for the nation's capital and for President Abraham Lincoln. By the end of the war, these defenses included 68 forts, 93 unarmed batteries, 807 mounted cannons, 13 miles of rifle trenches, and 32 miles of military roads. The major test of the Civil War Defenses of Washington came with the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, when Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early, directed by General Robert E. Lee, sought to attack the nation's capital from the north, causing Union forces threatening to attack Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, to be withdrawn. General Early was delayed by Union Major General Lew Wallace at the Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864, and was stopped at the northern edge of Washington at the Battle of Fort Stevens on July 11 and 12, 1864. The Shenandoah Valley Campaign ended when Union Lieutenant General

Philip Sheridan defeated General Early at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on October 19, 1864.

Nearly all the individual forts in the Civil Defenses of Washington—on both sides of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers—were involved in stopping General Early's attack, and the Battle of Fort Stevens was the second and last attempt by the Confederate Army to attack Washington.

Taken together, these battles were pivotal to the outcome of the war and the freedom and democracy that the war represented for this country. It is therefore fitting that we recognize these sites by redesignating them as a national historic park.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

### IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE GREGORY D. BILL FOR RECEIVING THE 2018 PURPLE SPORT COAT AWARD

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Gregory D. Bill for receiving the Tertzag Tribute Dinner's 2018 Purple Sport Coat Award for his distinguished work as a judge. His commitment to justice and the Detroit community throughout his career with the 3rd Circuit Court of Michigan is worthy of recognition.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his J.D. from Western Michigan University's Cooley Law School, Judge Bill began his own practice with a specialization in aviation law. He has always had a passion for public service and served as a legislative aide for a member of the Michigan State Senate, where he honed his knowledge of the state's issues and policy procedures. Judge Bill served as a member of Michigan's 20th District Court before receiving an appointment to the Wayne County Circuit Court, a position he has held since 2000. Throughout his tenure, he has served in a variety of capacities and currently serves in the criminal division.

Judge Bill has been an outstanding public servant throughout his decades of work with the judiciary and is widely recognized and respected for his legal expertise. His colleagues have previously recognized him for his work, including being awarded the Michigan Special Legislative Tribute for Outstanding Service to the People of Michigan. The Purple Sport Coat award is granted in honor of the late Judge Kaye Tertzag who was known for his integrity and strict interpretation of the law. Judge Bill lives up to the legacy of public respect and judicial integrity that Judge Tertzag is remembered for and is truly deserving of this award. He has provided outstanding service to our state throughout his career as a judge, and I look forward to his continued work in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Judge Gregory Bill for being named the recipient of the 2018 Purple Sport Coat Award for his distinguished work as a judge. Judge Bill has been an outstanding public servant during his legal career.